

**WATERTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DIRECTOR'S REPORT
For December 2024**

Libby: Audio, Ebook & Magazine Checkouts		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
January:	3,591	4,028
February:	3,274	3,630
March:	3,729	3,934
April:	3,210	3,832
May	3,484	3,890
June:	3,607	3,750
July:	3,712	4,066
August:	3,744	3,723
Sept.	3,614	3,465
October	4,044	3,569
November	3,837	3,494
December	3,836	3,572
Totals	43,683	44,953

Physical Circulation for December	20,059
Dec. Libby:	3,572
Dec. Libby Mags	441
Dec. Hoopla	8,676
2024 Monthly Total	32,751
2023 Dec. Total	23,303
New Cards	94

Library Director's Notes:

Our annual Holiday Mitten Tree is accepting donations! Please consider donating new mittens (outdoor warm gloves/mittens), hats and scarves for kids of all ages. The Mitten Tree is located by the Circulation Desk.

Karol Kennedy, Director of the Bridges Library System, will retire in June 2025. We've had two excellent Director's since the System was formed and I anticipate that another great choice will be made for the future.

I am happy to report (again) that we may have filled the open Children's position. On-boarding is set for January. The first 2025 Resolution is included in the packet. I am excited to welcome Annika to the library team!

I will move forward with filling the open PT Janitor's position and the unfilled PT Library Assistant in Circulation. Our potential PT Library Assistant withdrew prior to the holidays.

Richter Heating completed the necessary repairs to the leaking pipes. Sure Fire completed the cleaning of the units per our contract signed in summer 2024. So far the units have performed as is expected since the cleaning.

Friends brought in a wonderful spread of Christmas cookies, candy, cupcakes and other treats. I believe everyone found a treat to enjoy!

Monthly Department Information

Adult:

December was spent wrapping up end of the year things, covering other desks for those on vacations and continuing to get Kate up to speed in the Reference department. She is picking things up very quickly and has jumped right in putting together readers advisory posts for our social media and is planning a Magic the Gathering program for February. Noah has been busy receiving entries to our first Film Festival, which is a partnership with Towne Cinema. If you are free on Monday, February 10, please consider attending the festival down at Towne Cinema. I attended a Library Memory Project meeting early in December, with other librarians in our system plus dementia care specialists from the ADRC in Jefferson and Waukesha counties. I placed an order for 6 new computers through the cooperative purchasing program that Bridges offers each year. When those come in

I will spend a lot of time updating 5 staff member's computers and one in the computer lab.

~Jamie

Children's:

December was another busy month, starting off with interviews and hopefully a full department to kick off 2025! We finished the year with many library visits, including all of Douglas 2nd grade and all of Schurz 1st grades visiting, St. Henry's Kindergarten with their regular monthly visit and the WUSD 3K Speech and Language kiddos and their families coming in for a special storytime! They loved it so much that they are coming back in February. We had our first Homeschool Tuesday Art Gallery and have had these children's and teen's artwork displayed in our hall between the Community Room and the TalkReadPlay Center for the last 2 weeks. There are some beautiful pieces so I hope you got a chance to check it out while it was here. We kicked off our Winter Library Challenge with early registration beginning on 12/16 and the program starting on 12/23 and running through 2/16! I'll be wrapping up my 2024 with some vacation time and I'm looking forward to spending some extra time with my family, friends and the Packers on 12/23! Go Pack Go!

~Tina

Teens:

December seemed to fly by. Between all the holidays and winter break it felt about two weeks long! I wasn't sure how all the busyness would effect program attendance. It was a bit hit or miss this month. Overall, attendance was still good. Take and Makes did well as usual and I had a scavenger hunt going during the two weeks of winter break that did good as well. My one miss program was ornament making. Sadly, no one showed up for that. But thankfully, it was a program that entirely used supplies we already had here so it felt like less of a loss. Funny enough, a week later, I had a cookie decorating program that did even better than most of my previous programs. I ended up running out of cookies about halfway through! I have high hopes for the January programs I have planned and now with WLC (Winter Library Challenge) up and running I'm sure that will help get even more people here to attend! Looking forward to seeing what 2025 brings.

~ Gabby

Circulation Department:

Looking back on the year and moving forward to the new one with excitement for what we are able to offer this community and our patrons here at the library!
Happy New Year!

~ Cari